

## **ELECTRIC RULE 5**

### **RENDERING AND PAYMENT OF BILLS**

#### **A. GENERAL**

Electric meters shall be read as nearly as possible at regular intervals. Such regular meter readings normally shall be monthly, but may be at other intervals as established at the discretion of the Utility. If for any reason electric service is not metered, or if the meter is inaccessible or cannot be read, or if the meter fails to register correctly, the kWh consumption shall be estimated by the Utility as follows:

1. Previous consumption by metered service to the premises; or
2. The average consumption for the corresponding billing periods during which the meter is known to have registered correctly; or
3. The consumption as registered by a substituted meter; or
4. By giving consideration to the nature of use, volume of business, seasonal demand, and any other factors that may assist in determining such consumption.

#### **B. PRORATION OF BILLS**

Rate schedules stated on a monthly basis are related to a 30-day consumption interval as a standard month. Whenever actual meter read intervals differ from a standard 30-day period, bills computed from monthly schedules will be subject to proration on a 30-day basis. In computing and rendering regular bills, minor variances between actual read intervals and any established regular read intervals need not be considered in accordance with the following:

Where bills are regularly rendered monthly, computation from monthly rate schedules may be made directly whenever actual read intervals do not vary by more than 4 days (greater or lesser) from the standard 30-day interval.

On opening accounts, the Utility may omit the initial billing when such billing period is less than 7 days on monthly accounts.

#### **C. READINGS OF SEPARATE METERS NOT COMBINED**

For the purpose of computing charges, each electric meter upon the Customer's premises shall be considered separately, and readings of two

or more meters shall not be combined as equivalent to measurement through one meter.

**D. TIME AND MANNER OF PAYING BILLS**

Bills are due and payable upon presentation and become delinquent 19 days after billing. After a bill is past due, the Utility may discontinue electric service and turn-off the electricity after giving appropriate written notice in accordance with Electric Rule No. 7 and California Law.

**E. RETURN CHECK OR DRAFT**

The City of Riverside will assess a return item charge for a check, draft or credit card payment that is returned from the bank for any reason. If the returned item was returned for payment on a prior 48-hour notice of disconnection, service may be terminated without further notice.

**F. PENALTY FOR NONPAYMENT OF BILL**

The City of Riverside will assess a basic penalty for nonpayment of a bill of not more than 10 percent of each month's charges for the first month delinquent, and, for all subsequent months delinquent, an additional penalty of not exceeding one-half of 1 percent per month for the nonpayment of the charges and the basic penalty.